



## INDIANA PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS BOARD

**Friday Update: January 24, 2003**

**Friday Update was not published January 17.**

### **Highly Qualified Teachers**

As required in NCLB, teachers must be highly qualified. The following definitions describe how teachers licensed in Indiana meet the federal requirement:

- **Charter School Teachers.** In Indiana, teachers in public charter schools are required to meet the same certification requirements as teachers in other public schools, as described below.
- **Teachers with Bulletin 400 Licenses.** Individuals with an instructional license issued prior September 1, 1985 were required to obtain a Master's degree prior to December 31, 1990. These individuals have full state certification as defined in Sec 200.55(a) and the Master's degree meets the definition of Sec 200.56 (b)(3)(B), as highly qualified teacher.
- **Teachers with Rules 46-47 Licenses.** Individuals with licenses issued after July 1, 1986 are required to pass state licensing tests as described in Sec 200.56(b)(2) prior to the issuance of their first standard license. These individuals are required to engage in professional development consistent with the principles outlined in ESEA section 9101(34) in order to renew the license every five years. These teachers have full state certification as defined in Sec 200.55(a) and meet the definition of highly qualified for all content areas listed on the license.
- **Teachers New to the Profession, including Transition to Teaching Candidates.** All individuals receiving an initial standard license are required to pass rigorous state testing as described in Sec 200.56(b)(2) after completion of the undergraduate or graduate degree in the academic area in which the individual is prepared to teach. It is anticipated that the first licenses under the performance-based preparation rules will be issued in July 2003. This licensing system is aligned with the Indiana academic standards, so that these individuals also meet the definition of highly qualified as described in Sec 200.55(c)(2)(C). Teachers new to the profession holding a standard license meet the definition of highly qualified for content areas appearing on the license.
- **Teachers holding a Limited License.** As a minimum, any teacher who has credentials waived on a temporary basis in Indiana MUST hold an undergraduate degree and have at least 15 undergraduate or graduate hours in the content area for which the limited license is issued. Limited licenses are issued for individuals holding a teaching license who are teaching out of field or individuals with an undergraduate degree, but not in education. These individuals must demonstrate satisfactory progress toward full certification (Sec 200.56(a)(ii)(4)) by completing at least 6 credit hours of coursework annually. The

license advisor at the teacher preparation institution where the candidate is enrolled must document satisfactory progress. Under the new licensing rules, the limited license can be renewed annually for a period not to exceed three years, if the candidate provides documentation of satisfactory progress toward full certification. Individuals with a limited license meet the definition of highly qualified teacher.

The bottom line: Teachers who hold Bulletin 400 or Rules 46 & 47 licenses **will not** be required to take additional course work (other than that required for license renewal) or additional PRAXIS II tests in the areas in which they are already licensed in order to meet the federal definition of highly qualified.

### **Standard Setting for Paraprofessionals**

In order to determine a cut score for the new paraprofessional test to meet NCLB requirements, a panel of paraprofessionals and teachers will meet on June 24, 2003 in Indianapolis.

We are recruiting potential panelists to work with Educational Testing Service (ETS) in the standard setting process. We submit the names of potential panelists and ETS selects the final members. We need to have gender, diversity, geographic and grade level representation on the panel. Travel, overnight lodging if necessary, per diem, and a \$50.00 honorarium will be paid to panelists for volunteering their time. If interested, complete and return the biography form that is attached to this Update.

**Did you know?** In addition to the **1-317-232-9010** number, we now have a toll free number: **1-866-LICENS2 or 1-866-542-3672.**

*If Indiana students are to achieve high standards, there must be competent, caring, qualified educators to get them there.*